

Brooks, Niceley Bills Would Take Away Your Primary Vote

By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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Time travel may still be impossible, but State Senator Frank Nicely and State Representative Harry Brooks have a bill pending in the Tennessee General Assembly that would turn back the clock. Way back. Brooks and Nicely are proposing that nominees for the United States Senate would be selected by the respective party caucuses in Nashville, instead of being elected in the primary elections. The Republican nominee

would be selected by the Republican members of the House and Senate; the Democratic nominee would be selected by the same Democratic members of the House and the Senate.

It was exactly 100 years ago that Tennessee elected a United States Senator through the General Assembly. Prior to the adoption of the Seventeenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, U. S. senators were elected by state legislatures. The first senator elected by popular vote in Tennessee was Kenneth D.

McKellar in 1916. The last senator elected by the General Assembly was John Knight Shields in 1913.

Various reasons have been cited for replacing party primaries by those legislators who support the Brooks – Niceley bill, none of which make a lot of sense. One legislator questioned whether “our voices” were being heard in Washington, D. C. and wondered if passage of the Brooks – Niceley bill might change that; others have pointed out that allowing the partisan caucuses select the

nominees for the United States Senate would eliminate the power of Political Action Committees and special interests. Anyone who knows anything about how the state legislature operates has to bust out laughing at that notion. Prospective candidates for the United States Senate would merely use their own campaign funds to funnel money to state legislators up for election to curry favor with these legislators. The special interests will also be interested in just who goes to

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Central High to perform Sweeney Todd

By Tasha Mahurin
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Beginning April 5th, Central High School Choir, under the direction of Beckye Thomas, will present the full-length Broadway Musical Sweeney Todd. In years past, the award winning local choral department has deftly produced musicals such as Les Miserables and The Phantom of the Opera. An accomplished vocalist herself, Ms. Thomas, has become widely regarded among area choral teachers as capable of producing musicals that would move the great Andrew Lloyd Webber to a standing ovation. True to form, this year's production promises not to disappoint.

“The company of Sweeney Todd includes an enormous cast of 80 students and a full orchestra,” Thomas told *The Focus*.

Sweeney Todd is a 1979 musical, with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The musical is based on a 1973 play by Christopher Bond, and tells the story of Benjamin Barker- aka Sweeney Todd. Barker returns to London after 15 years of deportation for being falsely accused of a crime. When he returns, he finds that his wife has committed suicide after being raped by the judge who deported him. He begins a quest for revenge by opening a barber shop where he slits the throats of his customers. He solicits the help of, Mrs. Lovett, a local baker, who then bakes them into pies. While an emotionally intense production, according to Thomas, her students are up to the challenge.

“With such a large and extremely talented cast, most of the roles

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The ceremonial ribbon was cut last Thursday at Goodwill Industries' new location at 5412 Pleasant Ridge Road.

Goodwill finds much to celebrate

Just shy of 42 years of service, Goodwill Industries celebrated the opening of its newest location at 5412 Pleasant Ridge Road last week. The 28th retail location for Goodwill Industries-Knoxville is adjacent to the vocational training center. This 43,000 square foot facility will allow the organization to nearly double its Industrial Services Division.

Goodwill Industries-Knoxville exists to provide vocational services and employment opportunities for people with barriers to employment, and one of the many ways they do that is through their Industrial Services Division (ISD).

The ISD training program allows participants the opportunity to operate specialized equipment such as a heat sealer or heat tunnel, shrink wrapping, binding tools, and pallet jacks. Participants are trained in areas of processing, packaging, shipping and quality control within an industrial contract environment while earning a training wage.

In 2012, Goodwill Industries-Knoxville served 4,680 individuals and facilitated 4,360 positive program completions throughout its 15 county service area in East Tennessee.

“I think looking at Goodwill's history they are a very effective and efficient organization,” said Knoxville's Director of Community Relations and former county commissioner Tank Strickland who was present to help cut the ribbon on the new location.

Goodwill directors hope the location will enhance the vibrancy and retail environment in the north-west Knoxville area.

“Within the community they offer a good store with good items at a good price and the training facilities here are phenomenal,” Strickland added.

Also this month, The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is providing free tax assistance at the Goodwill Industries located at 5307 Kingston Pike. Assistance will be provided from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday until April 13th.

Last year, VITA did 1300 returns in the time they were at Goodwill. Since the start of the program this year on January 29th, VITA has done over 700 returns for community members, totaling over \$1.5 million dollars in refunds and is run by certified volunteers who offer free tax assistance to prepare returns for low to moderate income families who cannot prepare their own tax returns. Goodwill Industries-Knoxville will celebrate 42 years of service at the 42nd Annual Knoxville Awards Luncheon to be held at the Hilton-Downtown on April 3rd. The event is scheduled to begin at noon, with awards and a lunch. At this event, Goodwill Industries-Knoxville will honor employees, individuals, community members and surrounding area businesses that contributed to their success in 2012. Tickets are \$20 and include admission to the awards presentation and lunch.

FOCUS Weekly Poll*

State Representative Harry Brooks and State Senator Frank Nicely have introduced bills in the State legislature that would take away your right to vote on US senate candidates in primary elections. Instead, under the Brooks/Nicely bills, US senate candidates would be selected by the republican and democratic party caucuses of the state legislature.

In your opinion, should US senate candidates continue to be nominated by election of the people in primary elections, or selected by political party caucuses of the state legislature?

**ELECTED
97.40%**

**SELECTED
2.60%**

Survey conducted
Match 28, 2013.

* Focus Weekly Polls are conducted by an independent, professional polling company.

Knox County Against Legislative Election of Senators

By Focus Staff

State Senator Frank Niceley and State Representative Harry Brooks are sponsoring a bill (House Bill 415) to allow the Republican and Democratic caucuses in Nashville to select the nominees for the United States Senate. This week's Knoxville Focus queried voters whether they preferred to choose nominees in primary elections or allow the legislature to choose the nominees.

An astounding 97.40% say they want to be able to vote to select United States Senators. Only 2.60% of Knox County voters supported the notion of allowing state legislators to select nominees for the U. S. Senate.

Three districts, the Third, Fifth, and Ninth, registered 100% in opposition to the Niceley – Brooks Bill. The district with the most support for the Niceley – Brooks Bill was the Fourth and only 6.25% of likely voters said they liked the idea of the legislature selecting nominees for the United States Senate.

“I was surprised by the margin,” said Steve Hunley, publisher of the *Knoxville Focus*. “I would have guessed most people in Knox County were against it, but I never imagined it would be so lopsided.”

Niceley no longer represents Knox County as he did while a member of the House of Representatives, but those areas currently represented in the House by Harry Brooks were solidly against the idea of the legislature selecting the nominees for the United States Senate.

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Focus on the Law Deeds

Conveying ownership of real property requires a writing. This writing is called a deed. There are many kinds of deeds. Registration of deeds is required at the office of the Register of Deeds of the county where the property is located. There are fees that must be paid when the deed is recorded, including state transfer tax and state mortgage tax. Deeds are good as between parties without registration. Registering the deed is necessary to protect the grantee against grantor's creditors and purchasers from him without actual notice of the deed.

A very common type of deed used in Tennessee is the warranty deed. A warranty deed transfers ownership of real property from one party to another. The party conveying the property is referred to as the grantor and the one receiving



By Sharon Frankenberg,
Attorney at Law

the property is the grantee. The warranty deed is called a "warranty" deed because the grantor makes certain promises or warranties. The grantor warrants that he or she has good title and will defend that title against all claims. Also, the grantor promises that he or she is in possession of the real property, that he or she has the right to convey it, that the property does not have any encumbrances against it and that grantee will be entitled to the quiet enjoyment of the property.

Special warranty deeds are typically used by corporations and banks when they convey real property. These deeds make warranties but limit them to certain parties or certain claims. This is the case because often the bank has never occupied the property and is therefore not familiar with all aspects

of the property and its history.

Quitclaim deeds transfer all of the grantor's interest in a parcel of real property to another party. The only promise made in a quitclaim deed is, basically, "I give you whatever interest in this land that I have, if any." Quitclaim deeds are sometimes used to clear up defects in deeds. A purchaser should be very careful before accepting only a quitclaim deed to the real property he or she just purchased. Further inquiry into the status of title should be made.

Trustee's deeds are sometimes known as Substitute Trustee's Deeds. These deeds convey property from trustees to grantees. According to Black's Law Dictionary, a trustee is "one who holds the legal title to property for the benefit of another, while, in a broad sense, the term is sometimes applied to anyone standing in a fiduciary or confidential relationship

to another, such as agent, attorney, bailee, etc." Trustee's deeds are often used to conveyed real property after the trustee has conducted a foreclosure sale. There are limited warranties made in a trustee's deed similar to those in a special warranty deed.

A deed of trust is similar to a mortgage and is commonly used in Tennessee. In a deed of trust the legal title to the real property is placed in one or more trustees, to secure the repayment of a sum of money or other conditions. So when you borrow money to buy a house, you have to sign a deed of trust which pledges your house to the lender until the loan is paid in full. If the loan is not paid and goes into default, the trustee will sell the house and transfer it by trustee's deed to the purchaser at the foreclosure sale.

If you need any kind of deed, contact an attorney to get advice and assistance with your unique situation.

When Wright is right



By Richie Beeler

It is one of the most basic truths most of us learned from our grandparents: right is right. It always has been. It always will be. And by the very implication of the statement, what is not right is just plain wrong.

As a resident of the Gibbs community in northeast Knox County, I am privileged to be represented on County Commission by the gentleman from the 8th District, Dave Wright. Recently, an article (more like a rant actually) appeared in a local publication harshly criticizing Commissioner Wright. To say the article was unkind would be an understatement. To

say it was just plain wrong is more to my liking.

Wright was attacked for everything from his position on issues to his manner of speaking at commission meetings to his understanding of the feelings of his constituents. Well, I'd like to set the record straight - one issue at a time.

On the subject of his demeanor, decorum, and manner of speaking at commission meetings, I am grateful to say as a citizen of his district that Dave Wright is the consummate gentleman. Rather than grandstanding about populist issues that have little substance to get his name in the papers and his face on TV, Commissioner Wright speaks thoughtfully and deliberately about issues that really do affect Knox County and its citizens.

I have never seen Dave Wright verbally attack a fellow officeholder or

member of commission. I have never witnessed him questioning someone's intellect or looking down his nose at those who happen to live a few miles farther up the road than he does. He conducts himself in a manner befitting one elected to represent the people of his district.

But despite the railings of the liberal left about the quality of his sometimes lengthy speeches, what really bothers them about Wright are his positions. Dave Wright is simply on the wrong side of several issues for some people. And that's what I like about him.

Commissioner Wright is a staunch defender of constitutional offices, those departments of county government that are headed by officials that actually run for election every four years. Wright has not only courageously supported the continued election of these

officials, but also the fiscal independence of the offices. Both are vastly unpopular positions among many in the media. But Wright has a unique understanding of the separation of powers that was crafted into our state's model for county governments.

But what really caused those on the left to chafe was last month when Wright supported two resolutions before commission asking the State Legislature to allow counties to elect their school superintendents and hold partisan elections for school board. Unlike some of his colleagues, he was bold enough to actually represent the views of his district.

As usual, Wright was right on both counts. The government official in charge of the largest chunk of the citizens' tax revenue should absolutely be elected by the people. Furthermore, the men and women who govern the

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In your opinion, should US senate candidates continue to be nominated by election of the people in primary elections, or selected by political party caucuses of the state legislature?

Elected 97.40%
Selected 2.60%

By Age	Elected	Selected	Total
18-29	100.00%	[None]	2
30-49	95.00%	5.00%	40
50-65	98.33%	1.67%	120
65+	97.28%	2.72%	184
Total	97.40% (337)	2.60% (9)	346

By District	Elected	Selected	Total
1	95.65%	4.35%	23
2	97.87%	2.13%	47
3	100.00%	[None]	34
4	93.75%	6.25%	48
5	100.00%	[None]	30
6	97.37%	2.63%	38
7	94.87%	5.13%	39
8	97.37%	2.63%	38
9	100.00%	[None]	49
Total	97.40% (337)	2.60% (9)	346

By Gender	Elected	Selected	Total
Unknown	100.00%	[None]	15
Female	96.89%	3.11%	161
Male	97.65%	2.35%	170
Total	97.40% (337)	2.60% (9)	346

Survey conducted March 28, 2013.

affairs of our public county school system should not be allowed to hide their political affiliations from voters.

But what really offended my sense of fair play about the article in question was the blatant inaccuracy with which Commissioner Wright's understanding of his own constituents' views was portrayed. The article actually suggested that the 8th District really did not support the election of school superintendents. To begin with, this assumption was apparently based on interviews with two residents whose views clearly did not reflect those of most people in the district. But besides that, repeated Focus polls have shown that more than three-fourths of people in the 8th District support an elected

superintendent.

Dave Wright may not be Abraham Lincoln, and his speeches may grate on the nerves of those who disagree with his positions, but he definitely understands the 8th District. He was born and raised there. And contrary to the arrogant opinions of some people, that does not make him better suited to represent Union County. It makes him perfectly suited to represent communities like Gibbs, Corryton, Ritta, Skaggs, Thorngrove, Riverdale and Carter - all of which happen to be in Knox County. Of course that is just another inconvenience to the liberal left.

Just like Dave Wright will continue to be.

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Publisher's Position A Big Step Backward



By Steve Hunley,
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Trying to figure out what goes through the mind of state legislators is likely a job for a well trained psychiatrist. The Tennessee General Assembly is preparing to pass a bill that takes us back 100 years. Senator Frank Niceley and State Representative Harry Brooks have sponsored

a bill that will allow the Republican and Democratic caucuses to select the nominees for the United States Senate in Tennessee, eliminating the current system of primaries.

Prior to the system of holding elections for the United States Senate, the General Assembly actually elected senators. The last senator elected by the state legislature was John Knight Shields of Grainger County in 1913. Tennessee's first popularly elected senator was Kenneth D. McKellar of Memphis, who won two primary elections and a general election in 1916 to serve in the U. S. Senate.

It is almost unthinkable that the legislature would wish to return to a system which disenfranchises the voters of Tennessee

in choosing United States Senators. As I understand the bill, the Republican caucus of the House and Senate would name the Republican nominee, while the Democrats in the House and Senate would select the Democratic nominee. That is precisely a return to the way we did things 100 years ago and is certainly not an improvement.

The arguments advanced for this legislation are just foolish, at best. The notion that lobbyists and PACs won't have something to say about the selection of an United States Senator is unadulterated bull. It simply redirects the money. And, for state legislators, it has the happy effect of redirecting the money to the Tennessee General Assembly. Prospective Senate

candidates will be generously donating money to colleagues, while the liquor lobby and those with pending business before the legislature do the very same thing. There is no good reason to change the current process and eliminate the right of Republicans and Democrats to choose their own nominees. The idea that Tennesseans will still get to ultimately choose their own senator is disingenuous, as we would get to choose from the two nominees selected for us by the members of the General Assembly in the general election.

Certainly the flow of money would not cease simply because the legislature would be naming the respective nominees for the Republican and Democratic

parties. It reposes far too much power into the hands of the caucuses and the public has no reason to expect the legislators to make a wise choice.

While it is true that a few states choose their nominees by caucus, the vast majority have primary elections and not a single state utilizing a caucus system allows the members of the state legislature to choose nominees for the United States Senate.

Should this bill pass, we will likely not see nominees like Lamar Alexander or Bob Corker; in fact, it is conceivable we could see nominees like Stacey Campfield. The argument that Washington is broken and the state legislators can fix it by selecting the nominees for the United States Senate is

not only bizarre, but wrong.

Certainly Washington is broken, but eliminating the right of the people to choose their own elected officials is not the way to fix it. By the same logic, why not select the nominees for the General Assembly by a party caucus in their own districts?

Many of us are nostalgic for days gone by and remember the past sentimentally, but this bill is a travesty. The legislature should be working hard to resolve real problems, not create new ones or take away rights from the people.

Every free-thinking Tennessean should be on the phone giving his or her legislator pure hell for this stupid legislation.

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Megasite proves to be risky business

In January, the Jefferson County Post posed



By Tasha Mahurin
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the following question in an editorial: megasite or megadisaster? Who really knows? The query is quite literally the million dollar question.

TVA cites \$5.5 billion in annual economic impact and the creation of 32,371 jobs as proof positive their megasite concept works. Despite the positive press the project has received locally, Jefferson County residents remain sharply divided on the issue, particularly those private property owners who may be forced to sale their land due to the implementation of eminent domain in order to obtain the 1,800 acres needed to complete the megasite certification process.

The Knoxville News Sentinel recently printed an article indicating Garrett Wagley, with the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, invited several journalists to tour the BMW manufacturing facilities located on a megasite in Greer, South Carolina. While this particular development has been a mega-success for residents of South Carolina's Upstate, in reality, comparing the success of the megasite, now home to BMW, to a potential site in Jefferson County is bit of a stretch. The overall business climate, the ability to tap into a large workforce, ease of transportation, and proximity to the coast, were driving factors behind BMW's decision to build manufacturing facilities in Greer. Last we checked, Jefferson County, Tennessee is still a good many miles away from Charleston Harbor, although some residents might akin the megasite proposal to the offer of oceanfront property in East Tennessee. While TVA maintains

thousands of jobs have been created, TVA offers little detail on the number of jobs conserved. Surely that number doesn't contain the nearly 300 people recently permanently laid-off by Hemlock Semi-Condenser, an occupant of the Clarksville, TN megasite?

The megasite concept has proven to be successful at creating jobs. Sustainable jobs, however, have proven to be more difficult to come by and the lay-offs are not exclusive to Clarksville. The lack of sustainability does not necessarily serve to prove that the megasite process is flawed. It indicates that current economic conditions are unstable. Even if privately held property owners were moved to part with their property in the name of propelling others forward, expectant progress offers little surety.

However, to state that the implementation of a megasite comes with no guaranteed economic impact is incorrect. Consultants, engineers, contractors, and even the public relations firm handling the project are all making money on the deal. Of that you can be certain.

Despite the notion that some will certainly profit from the project, residents have been offered little explanation as to who would actually foot

the bill for the certification process. Jefferson County Mayor Alan Palmieri recently pulled his support of the project due to fear that tax payers would be stuck with the \$306 million dollar bill for the project. Palmieri indicated that there was no apparent willingness on the state or any other entity to help fund the megasite.

Of course, proponents of the site near and far aren't interested in or capable of adequately compensating property owners for the privately held land needed to complete the certification process either. State Senator Frank Niceley, introduced Senate Bill 1189, which mandates that agricultural property that will be taken by eminent domain for use must be paid fair market price for the highest use of the property. The bill failed in subcommittee. According to Niceley, the Bill has opposition from Chambers of Commerce in the State and, possibly, the Governor himself. This news provided little comfort to landowners like Jean Wood, who operates an Angus cattle farm that has been in her family for 100 years.

What premium does one place one's heritage? Certainly, it should not be forced into prostitution at the expense of what has historically proven to be a risky economic venture.



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U.S. Cellular recently awarded Network Technology in Seymour with its Customer Service Excellence Award. Pictured are Martin Burgess, SE Agent Area Sales Manager-USCC; Shirley Clepper of Network Technologies; Chris Clepper; Autumn Galyon of Network Technologies; and Patrick McCall, Agent Sales & Development Manager-USCC. To celebrate, Network Technology is offering a free accessory (up to \$19.99/some restrictions apply) to any customer who activates a new line of service or renews an existing line of service when they mention this photo.

Central High to perform Sweeney Todd

Continued from page 1

have been double, triple, and even quadruple casted," Thomas added.

Thomas' advanced students have performed both locally and internationally throughout the years. Venues have included churches and cathedrals in Knoxville, Nashville, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and London, England. Performances of secular music have been given for many local, state, and national conventions, meetings, and ceremonies. They are

regularly featured at the historic Tennessee Theatre for the "Mighty Musical Monday" concert series, presented by Dr. Bill Snyder.

This particular show runs April 5-14 for a total of eight performances, and a preview at the historic Tennessee Theatre's Mighty Musical Monday on April 1st at noon. Tickets are on sale now. The cost is \$10.00 for general admission and \$8.00 for students and senior citizens. You may call the choir office at (865) 689-1428 to reserve tickets, visit www.knoxcentralchoral.com, or purchase them at the door upon arrival.

Brooks, Niceley Bills

Would Take Away Your Primary Vote

Continued from page 1

the Senate and will generously donate to the campaigns for the legislators and come back to whisper in the right ears when the time comes to nominate a prospective U.S. Senator. Even contributing lavishly to the campaigns of state legislators would be far cheaper for would-be U.S. Senators than buying television time and running a traditional statewide primary campaign.

Legislators who would otherwise have no hope of winning a contested primary election would suddenly have a realistic chance of winning a nomination for the Senate. For example, Lieutenant Governor Ron Ramsey, who was defeated for the gubernatorial nomination by Bill Haslam, would not have to compete in an open primary if he chose to seek a U.S. Senate seat, and would be a formidable candidate in an electorate composed entirely of members of the legislature.

Many of the same Republican legislators who support the Brooks - Niceley bill support electing local school Superintendents, but now want to basically

appoint U.S. Senate candidates through party caucuses. This is very inconsistent, but then politics and politicians are seldom consistent and often hypocritical.

Take Senator Lamar Alexander, for example. Lamar Alexander has served in just about every capacity one can serve in public life; a former two-term governor, President of the University of Tennessee and Secretary of Education in the administration of President Ronald Reagan, Alexander won a hotly contested Republican primary with Congressman Ed Bryant to get to the United States Senate through the current primary election process of not nominating U.S. Senators. Bob Corker lost his first Senate contest to Bill Frist and served in the Cabinet of Governor Don Sundquist and won election as Mayor of Chattanooga. Corker won his own hard fought primary campaign, facing former Congressman Ed Bryant and Van Hilleary. Alexander had not been on a ballot in Tennessee for more than 20 years when he first ran for the United States Senate. Both men

demonstrated considerable skills in winning election to the U. S. Senate.

Senator Niceley points out people would still be able to choose their own senator in the General Election, which is technically true, however, which ever nominee is the ultimate victor would be the choice of the members of the Tennessee General Assembly, not the people of Tennessee.

Should the Niceley Brooks bill pass, it is almost certain senators will hear the voices of the legislators in Nashville more loudly, but it will surely also diminish the voice of the people. Ultimately the Democrats and Republicans in Nashville may open the door to a strong Independent candidacy. When Joe Lieberman lost the Democratic nomination for the United States Senate in 2006, he entered the general election as an Independent and won. Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont, while caucusing with the Democrats in the U. S. Senate, runs as an Independent. Former Governor Angus King of Maine won two terms as Chief Executive as an Independent and was just elected to the United States Senate, beating both a Republican and a Democrat. Harry F. Byrd, Jr. of Virginia ran as an Independent in 1970 and was elected and reelected in 1976.

The current Knoxville Focus poll confirms virtually nobody supports the Brooks - Niceley bill except for the people it benefits the most, certain state legislators.

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Photos Names: Back Row-(L to R) Ethan Thompson, Julian Zavala, Jasmine Bryant, Front Row-(L to R) Lola Bowden, Jennifer Gonzales, Dianna Revilla, Tyler Dotson.

CLUB 105 Members Celebrate on the Path to Graduation

Boys & Girls Club Members Recognized for Outstanding Attendance

On March 28th, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley held its first CLUB 105 Party to recognize members who have attended the Boys & Girls Club for 105 or more days over the past year. Over 250 children and their families attended the exclusive party at Skatetown.

The event rewarded members who attended 105 days or more with exclusive CLUB 105 t-shirts, bracelets, and sunglasses; a Hollywood-style photo area; and pizza and cake. Door prizes for Club members and their families were given out throughout the evening.

"My favorite part of the

night was getting prizes and racing," said Ashton Osborne, a member of Halls Powell Boys & Girls Club.

For the Boys & Girls Clubs, 105 is a magic number. When Club President & CEO Lisa Hurst tracked more than 2,000 former members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley for her dissertation research, she discovered a "tipping point" at 105 annual visits. Former members who reached this mark were more than twice as likely as their peers to have graduated from high school.

With the effect of frequent attendance so clear, Tennessee Valley Club leaders decided to hone in on this strategy to increase their Clubs' average daily attendance. To that end, Hurst and her team developed a fun,

dynamic recognition program, CLUB 105, for frequent attendees. After just one six-month cycle, the organization's 14 Clubs had collectively grown average daily attendance by 100, to 1,230 youth per day.

"By attending the Boys & Girls Club 105 or more days, these kids are doubling their likelihood of graduation. We want them to know how special that accomplishment really is, so CLUB 105 is all about providing them with fun, exclusive experiences and keeping them motivated," said Hurst.

In addition to attending this exclusive party, CLUB 105 members get to enjoy perks throughout the year including field trips and late nights at the Club. Parents of CLUB 105 members also benefit from reduced fees and "Parents' Night Out."

This event was sponsored

by Club Blue, a local networking group of young professionals that supports Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley (bgctnv.org) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting academic success, healthy lifestyles, and good character and citizenship in a safe and caring environment. Membership is open to boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 17 years. Fourteen Club facilities in Knox, Blount, Loudon, and North Anderson Counties serve over 5,200 area youth each year. They benefit from trained, caring, professional staff and volunteers who help young people take control of their lives, envision productive futures, and reach their goals. Learn more at facebook.com/bgctnv and twitter.com/bgctnv.

First Volunteer in the Top 100 Performing Banks

First Volunteer received recognition recently from SNL Financial. The Bank was ranked in the Top 100 best-performing community banks in 2012 in the country (Ranked #71).

First Volunteer was the only bank in Tennessee to make the top 100 list for banks between \$500 million and \$5 billion in assets in the country.

"We are honored to be included in SN L's top 100 list of best-performing community banks in the country. We believe in soundness, profitability and growth, in that order of importance and our financial accomplishments are attributable to that focus," stated First Volunteer President and CEO Patti W. Steele.

SNL ranked the best-performing community banks using six core financial performance metrics that focus on profitability, asset quality and growth for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2012. The metrics used were: return on average tangible assets before tax, net charge-offs as a percentage of average loans, adjusted Texas ratio, efficiency ratio, net interest margin and loan growth. ANL measured each company's standard deviation from the mean of each metric. The standard deviations, which are each equally weighted, were added together to calculate a performance score for each company.

SNL Financial is the premier provider of breaking news, financial data and expert analysis on business sectors critical to the global economy including banking. www.snl.com.

First Volunteer Bank is a \$890 million financial institution with 24 branch offices in eleven counties in Tennessee and Georgia. The company offers banking services, mortgages and insurance products.

Instructor from China shares culture, language with Pellissippi State students

Cont. from page 1

"The grammar part of Mandarin Chinese is very, very easy compared to English," said Liu. "Pronunciation is not too difficult, either. The characters are the hardest part, but even that is not difficult once students learn the meanings behind them."

One of the first things her students learn is their Chinese name. Liu encourages discussion about students' families as a way of practicing the language and honoring the Chinese emphasis on familial relationships. She also reaches out to students from China, whom she welcomes to her classroom.

"Please let students from China know that I love for them to visit my classes," said Liu. "I enjoy seeing them make friends with my students."

Liu serves as the full-time instructor for Chinese culture and language classes at Pellissippi State thanks to the college's 2010 establishment of a Confucius Classroom, which is the result of a prestigious

grant made by the Confucius Institute at the University of Memphis. The first language class offered in 2010 was full long before registration ended.

Pellissippi State students may now choose from a series of beginning- and intermediate-level courses in Mandarin Chinese. With nearly a billion primary- or first-language speakers, Mandarin Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world, according to geographer Matt Rosenberg. Chinese is the third most widely spoken language in American homes, a 2009 census reports.

Fall 2013 courses available as part of the Confucius Classroom are "Beginning Chinese I" (CHIN 1010), "Beginning Chinese II" (CHIN 1020), "Intermediate Chinese I" (CHIN 2010) and "Peoples and Culture of China" (LAS 2020).

Registration for fall semester begins April 1. For additional information, visit www.pstcc.edu or call (865) 694-6400.

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The Independent From Kentucky

John Sherman Cooper

**Pages from
the Political
Past**



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

John Sherman Cooper was one of the most enduring and popular public figures in Kentucky in the post World War II era and he was, of all things, a Republican. Cooper was among those titanic figures that dominated Kentucky politics for decades, including Senator and Vice President Alben Barkley and Governor and Senator Albert B. "Happy" Chandler. Both Chandler and Barkley were Democrats while John Sherman Cooper was a Republican, albeit it hardly a conservative Republican.

Cooper was born August 23, 1901 in Somerset, Kentucky. The Cooper family was locally prominent and his father, for whom he was named, was wealthy, as well as heavily involved in local politics. In fact, the elder Cooper was serving as Collector of the Internal Revenue Service by appointment of President Theodore Roosevelt when his first son was born.

John Sherman Cooper was privately tutored until the sixth grade when he entered the public school system. He would go on to attend Yale University and Harvard Law School before he returned to Kentucky. While home from Harvard, John Sherman Cooper received the distressing news his father was dying and much of the family fortune had been lost. Cooper was elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives where he quickly established himself as independent-minded. That same ability to think for himself rather than hue to any party line was to be a hallmark of his entire political career and likely had much to do with his success as Cooper was the first to cheerfully admit he was a "terrible" public speaker.

Cooper left the state house to run for Pulaski County judge, defeating the incumbent. As the Great Depression drowned many in poverty like a tidal wave, Judge Cooper was faced with the responsibility for serving eviction notices on many hard-pressed constituents, a task he loathed. Cooper worked hard to find housing for those facing eviction or simply gave some money out of his own pocket, earning himself a reputation for compassion and many referred to him as "the poor man's judge." There is reason to believe John Sherman Cooper suffered a nervous breakdown caused by the hardship faced by so many friends and neighbors during the Depression.

In 1939, John Sherman Cooper ran for governor of Kentucky, but lost the

Republican primary to another judge. Despite being well over the draft age during World War II, Cooper volunteered and entered the army as a private. He attended officer training school and found himself in Germany just after the war where he finally served as a legal adviser to those displaced by the war. In his absence, Cooper had been elected as a Circuit Judge, facing no opposition from either Republicans or Democrats, despite the fact he was unable to campaign.

Just as John Sherman Cooper returned from Europe in 1945, Senator A. B. "Happy" Chandler resigned to accept appointment as Commissioner of Baseball. Cooper entered the Senate race and was widely considered the underdog against former Congressman John Y. Brown. Brown, the father of future governor John Y. Brown, Jr., was a veteran of Kentucky's political wars and had managed to antagonize many of former Senator Chandler's followers. Brown had also feuded with the leaders of the Democratic machine in Louisville and lost the election by more than 40,000. John Sherman Cooper won by a greater majority than any other Republican up until that time.

1946 was a banner year for Republicans, who held majorities in both houses of Congress. Conservative Senator Robert A. Taft, unofficial leader of Republicans in the United States Senate, was soon highly irritated by John Sherman Cooper's independent streak. Taft apparently growled at Cooper, demanding to know when the Kentuckian was going to start voting with his party in the Congress. Cooper coolly replied he would vote as he saw fit. Cooper voted only 51% of the time with Republicans

in the Senate.

Having won a special election, Cooper had to face the voters again in 1948 and was opposed by Congressman Virgil Chapman. 1948 was not a Republican year and while Senator Cooper outran the rest of the Republican ticket, he lost to Chapman. Virgil Chapman only barely managed to win and had even alienated big labor by his support for the Taft-Hartley Bill. Chapman was a rotund, bald and nondescript man, albeit it pleasant. He was also a severe alcoholic and would help to revive John Sherman Cooper's political career when he was killed in an automobile crash in 1951.

Following his defeat, President Truman appointed former Senator John Sherman Cooper as a delegate to the United Nations; later Cooper would serve as a special assistant to Secretary of State Dean Acheson. When Senator Virgil Chapman was killed in 1951, Congressman Thomas Underwood was appointed to succeed him. John Sherman Cooper seemed like the strongest candidate the Republicans could nominate and General Dwight D. Eisenhower seemed likely to run strong in Kentucky. Both Eisenhower and Cooper carried Kentucky and once again John Sherman Cooper was serving a short term in the United States Senate.

Senator Cooper could likely have been reelected in 1954, but he faced former Majority Leader of the U. S. Senate and Vice President Alben W. Barkley in the general election. Barkley was well into his seventies when he sought to return to the Senate and was still a legend inside his own state. Cooper lost to Barkley and was appointed as Ambassador to India by President Eisenhower.

John Sherman Cooper's exile from elective politics was brief as Alben Barkley dropped dead during a speech and both of Kentucky's Senate seats were on the ballot in 1956. Congressman Thruston Morton challenged Senator Earle B. Clements and former Senator John Sherman Cooper ran for the seat left open by Barkley's death. President Eisenhower won Kentucky, as did Cooper and Morton.

Senator Cooper did not have to face the voters again until 1960, when he beat former Governor Keen Johnson to win his first full six-year term. John Sherman Cooper accomplished quite a feat in having the support of those voting for Vice President Richard Nixon in his contest with Senator John F. Kennedy, as well as organized labor. Cooper was supportive of President Eisenhower and while the Kentuckian was never likely considered a mainstream Republican, he remained enormously popular in Kentucky. Cooper had married a wealthy woman and was one of the few senators regularly chauffeured to work every morning. Despite his patrician background, John Sherman Cooper remained affable, frequently self-deprecating and approachable. Somewhat absent-minded, Cooper rarely spoke on the Senate floor, but he was highly respected by his colleagues and his penchant for being independent oftentimes gave his views even greater weight inside the United States Senate.

Easily reelected again in 1966, Cooper had become disillusioned with the Vietnam War. Together with liberal Idaho Senator Frank Church, the Kentuckian authored a series of amendments

to defund the war. Known as the Cooper - Church amendments, Cooper had long been urging a negotiated settlement of the war. Following another tour of South Vietnam in 1966, Senator Cooper became even more firmly fixed in his opposition to the war. Cooper's attitude towards the war did not diminish his popularity at home, as he faced his opponent from twenty years earlier, John Y. Brown, again in 1966 and won by more than 200,000 votes. Cooper carried all but 10 of Kentucky's 120 counties in the election.

Early in 1972, Senator Cooper announced he would not seek reelection to the U. S. Senate, although he likely could have been reelected without much trouble. He was then 71 and many other senators had been reelected well past that age, but Cooper had been ill following his intense activity relating to the Vietnam War and was becoming seriously hard of hearing.

Former Governor Louie Nunn became the Republican candidate to succeed Senator Cooper and despite Richard Nixon's overwhelming victory in Kentucky, lost to Democrat Walter "Dee" Huddleston. John Sherman Cooper retired from the Senate and joined perhaps the most prestigious law firm in Washington, D. C. Cooper's retirement didn't last that long as he was pressed by President Gerald Ford into serving as Ambassador to

East Germany. Cooper remained as Ambassador for quite nearly two years before returning to the United States and resuming his law practice.

For the remainder of his life, John Sherman Cooper occupied the lofty position of statesman and accumulated awards and honors for his service to the country and as a member of the United States Senate. Cooper was given an award by Governor John Y. Brown, Jr., son of his former opponent in two elections. A bust of Senator Cooper was unveiled in the state Capitol in 1987 where it remains to this day.

Cooper suffered the loss of his wife Lorraine in 1985 and the couple had been favorites on the Washington social circuit for years. Cooper kept practicing law until his retirement in 1989 at age 88. Cooper lived long enough to see a screening of a public broadcasting documentary about his life entitled, "The Gentleman From Kentucky".

John Sherman Cooper's health began to fail and he became increasingly more frail and he passed away in an assisted care facility in Washington, D. C. on February 21, 1991.

The fierce independence of John Sherman Cooper likely could not have survived the bitterness and polarized politics today, but he remains a political giant, as well as a reminder of a time when politicians rendered real service to their home states and nation.



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Former Senator John Sherman Cooper consulting with Senator Walter F. George of Georgia, Chairman of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, 1956.

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Party Lines and Clotheslines

Lots of us older folks worry about the shape the world is taking. We worry that our kids' lives won't be close to as happy or full as ours have been. The lack of intimate contact



By Joe Rector

is one reason things seem to have gone so wrong.

I marvel at the communication skills or the younger generations. They can stay in constant touch with friends, family and even strangers without ever uttering a monosyllabic grunt. Technology offers a variety of ways to communicate without actually speaking. Twitter and Facebook and texting are avenues for dispersing information without having to look at a person eye-to-eye or listening to another's voice. Email by the billion zip across the Internet without even the simplest personal touch of a hand-written signature. Too much of life is lived in a faceless state.

Perhaps the time to "go back" is at hand. Yes, I know that such proposals are absurd, but isn't it just possible that

communications of a few years ago were much more effective?

During the 1950's and 60's, most homes had landline telephones. Our first number was "5385." It grew in length until it was set at "588-5385." My mother did most of the talking on the phone, usually splitting time with family members and church friends. The farthest the phone would reach was across the kitchen, and that was only because Mother installed a long cord that allowed her to cook and chat at the same time. Sometimes she'd perch upon her two-stop, yellow stool, crane her neck to one side to hold the phone and sew a hem or grade a sixth grade paper at the supper table while she yakked to someone on the other end of the line.

My kids find it difficult to comprehend the idea of a party line. Back then, folks shared a line with one or more families in the neighborhood. No, it wasn't like Andy Griffith speaking directly to the operator.

Instead, the user picked up the receiver and listened to make sure that no one was using the phone, and if it were clear, she'd call the number by turning the rotary dial.

When the phone rang, no one jumped to answer it. First, folks listened to the ring pattern. Ours was one long ring. Our party line's signal was two short rings. After making sure the ring was the right one, a person would answer.

Sometimes sharing was a pain, especially when the other party made a life of talking on the phone. Nothing was more irritating than constantly getting a busy signal or picking up the receiver to make a call for an hour or more and hearing the neighbor clucking. If emergencies arose, a person could interrupt the conversation and ask to make a call.

Neighbors kept up with each other by simply connecting on party lines and talking. They all knew that help was as close as next door or just a couple of houses down the road, and everyone knew his neighbors well enough to call them by name.

Hanging clothes on the

line also led to good communications. Women of the day would tote a basket of laundry to the poles and lines in the back yard and hang shirts, socks, and underwear to air dry. They'd stop for a while to catch up on the latest news of the community or to talk about common interests. Again, the family next door knew if an illness hovered over a neighbor's house, and if it did, folks offered help in the form of meals and free labor to make the times easier.

These days, people have abandoned landlines in favor of cell phones. They answer based on who's calling or the moods they are in. My kids will send texts all day long in favor of making a call. I can complete an entire conversation in less time than it takes to type a message. Dryers have made clotheslines, as well as communications between neighbors, obsolete.

Sure, our world has made plenty of progress in technology, but somehow, it seems that we've also managed to sever the ties that bound earlier generations through party lines and clotheslines.



The Boys & Girls Club recently held Kick Butts Day - a national day of activism empowering children and teenagers to be leaders in efforts to stop youth tobacco use. The Laura Cansler Boys & Girls Club, in collaboration with MDC and Smoke-Free Knoxville, hosted tobacco prevention activities on March 20, including tobacco-free pledges and tobacco trivia games.

Tamiya Jones, Zi Nzie, Malcolm Dowsey (above) and Terrance Arnold (below) sign tobacco-free pledges.



Poet, Author, Activist to Keynote East Tennessee Women's Leadership Summit

June 14th event explores women's need to "Close the Gap" in leadership, confidence and wages

The second annual East Tennessee Women's Leadership Summit will focus on issues that are a hot topic of discussion for women around the nation with the release of Sheryl Sandberg's book, "Lean In." Professional women understand that significant gender gaps persist throughout the corporate world in leadership numbers, in confidence levels, and in pay equity. On June 14th, a dynamic slate of speakers will address those issues, headlined by Nikki Giovanni, one of America's most widely-respected poet activists. The full-day Summit at the Knoxville Hilton Airport continues the conversation opened last year to encourage and equip East

Tennessee women to step up to leadership in all aspects of life - that is, to Live. Learn. Lead.

Giovanni was the first recipient of the Rosa L. Parks Woman of Courage Award and has been named Woman of the Year by Mademoiselle Magazine, The Ladies Home Journal, and Ebony Magazine. She was named an Outstanding Woman of Tennessee, was tapped for the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, and has received Governor's Awards from both Tennessee and Virginia. Born in Knoxville, Tennessee, Giovanni grew up in Cincinnati, but spent her summers with her grandparents in Knoxville. Now a University Distinguished Professor at Virginia Tech, she has come to be called a "National Treasure" and was named one of Oprah Winfrey's 25 "Living Legends."

In addition to Giovanni and featured speakers on closing the gap in

leadership, confidence and wages, the morning plenary session will be presented by Deb Sofield, executive speech and presentations coach who trains world-class public speakers nationally and internationally. Among her many activities, Sofield trains emerging leaders at the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government's Women and Public Policy Program and The Women's Campaign School at Yale.

At the end of the day, the second annual Lizzie Crozier French East Tennessee Women's Leadership Award will be revealed as the award is presented to a distinguished East Tennessee woman. Mayor Madeline Rogero, who received the inaugural award last year, will also be on hand to present the award to the 2013 winner.

Registration for the full day is \$75 until May 31st; \$90 until June 7th; \$125

at the door. To register, or to find more information about the conference go to www.easttnwomensl.com.

Sponsored by WVLT TV

and B97.5, the Summit is a volunteer effort of the East Tennessee Women's Leadership Council, chaired by Wendy Pitts Reeves and co-chaired

by Sharon Hannum. The Summit is an outgrowth of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women.

From State Representative Harry Brooks

Cont. from page 1


plan - use federal money to purchase health insurance. All of us are awaiting the federal government's response.

A number of legislative proposals are offered for the purpose of beginning a discussion. One such proposal related to higher education resulted in a review and subsequent changes. Thus the need for legislation is over.

As always, if there is any way that I or my office can be of service to you, please do not hesitate to call. The number is 615-741-6879 or 1-800-449-8366 ext. 44556 and I can be reached by email at rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov or if you would like to receive updates by email you can sign up

at <http://www.capitol.tn.gov/lyris/h19s.html>

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Farragut continues tough schedule in South Carolina

By Ken Lay

Wallie Culbreth has comprised a tough schedule for his Farragut High School boys soccer team and the reason is quite simple.

"The road to the big school state championship goes through West Knoxville," Culbreth said before his Admirals opened the 2013 season.

Farragut (6-0) took a well-deserved rest last

week during Spring Break. Prior to their brief hiatus, the Admirals knocked off defending Division II-A State Champion Webb, District 4-AAA foes Catholic, William Blount and West.

During that stint, the Admirals also defeated District 3-AAA favorite Hardin Valley Academy and closed the inaugural portion of their schedule with a 7-1 victory over Clinton

at home on Friday, March 22 in a game where most of the starters sat and gave some younger players some valuable match experience.

Rests, however, don't last long for the Farragut soccer team. They can't. District 4-AAA is Tennessee's toughest soccer conferences. Bearden and the Admirals have both won multiple Class AAA State Championships.

Lenoir City and the Irish both claimed Class A/AA State Titles before joining the district and West made a state tournament appearance recently and Maryville always fields one of the state's most competitive squads.

Farragut, which has a first-year senior at goalkeeper in Gus Green (who joined Farragut's soccer team this season after previously playing football

and lacrosse for the Admirals), will take its act on the road when it heads to South Carolina for the 21st annual Palmetto Cup, one of the nation's premiere tournaments.

The Admirals and Section 1-AAA finalist Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett will be in the 15-team field with South 13 South Carolina Schools. Tournament play opens on Wednesday and the Admirals will put

their unblemished record on the line. Many teams in the tournament have rich soccer traditions.

The Admirals will have a difficult road on the Atlantic Coast but things won't get any easier for Farragut when it returns home. Its next match on home soil will be against Blount County's Rebels at home on April 11. Farragut will

Continue on page 2

Fulton spoils Old Man Winter's shutout bid



South-Doyle High School softball coach Robby Howard poses with his senior players at Myrtle Beach last week. Left to right, the Lady Cherokees are Sabrea Thompson, Kassie Mikels, Katie Ford, Brittany Monday, Jessica McMahan and Kim Shell. While weather conditions in Knoxville were not suitable for softball most of the spring break week, South-Doyle played seven games in The Grand Strand Softball Classic.

The calendar may have said "spring break," but Old Man Winter wasn't ready to be benched last week. He could go another inning or two.

By Steve Williams

County high school baseball and softball teams were postponed or canceled because of snow or cold weather on Monday and Tuesday.

But not all of them.

"We played a doubleheader in the snow at Union County on Tuesday," said new Fulton head coach Adam Dyer. "The only time

it stopped snowing was between games."

Dyer's Falcons may have lost both ends of the twinbill, but they didn't let the unseasonable weather conditions stop them.

At South-Doyle, assistant baseball coach Nick Jacobs pointed out the difference in this year's spring break weather compared to last year.

"It was 80 degrees here this time last year, and we got snow three days this year," said Jacobs.

"Last season we went to Cocoa Beach to play games during spring break. This year the weather backed up our Monday and Tuesday district games against Sevier County to Wednesday and

Thursday."

A few Knox County teams traveled south this year.

South-Doyle, Bearden and West played in the Grand Strand Softball Classic at Myrtle Beach, S.C. The Lady Cherokees didn't entirely dodge the early spring cold snap, but at least they got to play their games.

"It was really cold in the mornings with the wind blowing," said South-Doyle Coach Robby Howard. "The highs were in the 50s in the afternoon."

"The kids went to the beach a little bit and tried to lay out in the sun, but they weren't out there very long."

All three Knoxville teams stayed at the same resort and enjoyed

some time together away from the ball field, said Coach Howard. Watching the Lady Cherokees, Lady Bulldogs and Lady Rebels singing and dancing at Karaoke Night "was pretty funny."

Playing in the tournament also were teams from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia and New York, in addition to Tennessee.

"If we were at home, we couldn't have played, except indoors," said Howard, whose team finished 2-5 for the week. "It was nice to get in the games and against good competition."

Carter's baseball team played games at Cocoa Beach and Fort Pierce, Fla.

Continue on page 2

Five Red Devils receive KIL wrestling honors

By Ken Lay

The 2012-13 season marked a return to prominence for the Halls High School wrestling team.

The Red Devils won district and regional team championships and made an appearance at the State Dual Championship Meet and the honors kept coming last week when five Halls wrestlers were named to the all-Knoxville Interscholastic League team.

Tanner Justice, Evan Huling, Calvin Giles, Joe Fox and Connor Rohrbach all received county-wide honors.

Justice, who competes in the 103-pound division, was a Region 2 runner up. Huling (113) claimed a region championship. Giles (126) and Fox (138) both finished second at regionals while Rohrbach (171) won a region championship and was the lone Red Devils senior honored.

"The exciting thing about this is that all but one of these guys will be back next year," Halls coach Shannon Sayne said. "Connor is the one guy graduating."

"The rest are coming back and they're already getting ready for next season."

The Red Devils may

Continue on page 2



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Former Central point guard could give Vols some pizzazz

By Steve Williams

There were times this basketball season when Tennessee Vols fans were either complaining or yawning or doing both.

That old saying in sports about “offense sells tickets and defense wins championships” was being put to a test, and head coach Cuonzo Martin’s style of play was being seriously questioned.

A 37-36 loss at Georgetown on Nov. 30 followed by a 46-38 loss at Virginia didn’t sit well with UT followers. We scored more points than this during the Kevin O’Neill days, I remember thinking. At least we won the 51-47 shootout with Xavier during the holidays.

Still, Tennessee’s style of play continued to draw criticism.

After a 68-62 loss to Georgia at home on Feb. 6, the Vols were 11-10.

Things did get better, particularly when Martin and his coaching staff switched to a four-guard offense, which freed up room for muscular Jarnell Stokes to be much more productive inside.

A six-game winning streak included an 88-58 blowout of Kentucky and a 64-58 grind-it-out win over Florida.

Back in the tourney talk, the Vols lost again to Georgia but bounced back for a 64-62 must-win over Missouri in the regular season finale.

Another meager offensive output in the quarter-final round of the SEC tourney, however, resulted in a 58-48 loss to Alabama and doomed Tennessee to NIT status for the second

year in a row.

When his third season rolls around, Coach Martin is going to be facing a must-make NCAA tournament field situation.

Putting a more entertaining product on the court also needs to be an objective.

A former Knoxville Central High standout could help the Vols accomplish these goals. Dre Mathieu is an exciting point guard who reportedly has received scholarship offers from a dozen NCAA Division 1 schools, including UCLA, Washington State and Ole Miss. He would like to have UT, his “home” school, on that list, too.

Mathieu said last week Tennessee watched him play one game but he hasn’t heard anymore from them. The ex-Bobcat said he plans to pick his new basketball home in a week or two.

Dre is only 5-9, 160 pounds but can fly. A 45-inch vertical helps him soar.

“I think I can play on any level,” said Mathieu. “I just need a chance.”

I covered one of his high school games when he was a senior at Central in 2011. He put on a show.

“Talent-wise, Dre is probably the best all-around guard I’ve ever coached in high school,” said former Central High coach Mitch Mitchell that February.

“He has awesome character and a grade point average over 3.00. He’s a very kind-hearted kid, respectful, a joy to coach. He’s one of those kids who comes along one of a few times in a coaching career.”



PHOTOS BY TRAVIS GREEN

Former Knoxville Central point guard Dre Mathieu is continuing his outstanding play on the college level.

Mitchell, also a former college assistant coach at Carson-Newman, King and Glenville State, W. Va., also projected Mathieu would “make an impact on a (college) program.”

Many local fans have seen Dre’s high-flying dunks in the summer Rocky Top League at Bearden.

Mathieu was a walk-on freshman at Morehead State but earned his first start against West Virginia in the fourth game of the season. By the end of the season, he had become the Eagles’ regular first-team point guard, starting the final seven games. Mathieu left Morehead State when head coach Donnie Tyndall departed to take the Southern Mississippi job.

This past season

Mathieu led Central Arizona College to the NJCAA Division 1 tournament in Hutchinson, Kan., where the Vaqueros lost 81-68 in the second round to College of Central Florida, which went on to capture the national championship.

The latest unofficial stats I saw on Mathieu had him averaging 17.1 points, 6.1 rebounds, 6.5 assists, 2 steals and 2.9 turnovers this season and shooting 52 percent from the field, 29 percent from 3-point range and 72 percent at the free throw line.

His entertainment value is off the chart.

Tennessee could use another point guard. Trae Golden, who will be a senior next season, has been inconsistent throughout his



Dre Mathieu had over 800 assists, 1,500 points and a few dunks in his high school career at Knoxville Central.

career. Even though their roster is full, we’ve heard the Vols plan to make room for another PG. They would be hard

pressed to land one more exciting than Dre Mathieu. His game will keep you awake. That’s for sure.

UT students organize ‘Sport 4 Peace Week’

“Sport 4 Peace Week” is a campus-wide initiative spearheaded by UT’s Center for Sport, Peace, & Society to promote the use of sport as a tool for empowerment, community development, cross-cultural understanding, and peace.

As part of “Sport 4 Peace Week,” international basketball coaches and players will participate in a “Strong Women. Better World.” panel held on April 2, 2013 at 11am in the Baker Center Toyota Auditorium. The panel discussion topics will include women’s empowerment, sports, and cross-cultural understanding.

The basketball visitors include 24 participants from six different countries (3 athletes and one coach from each country): Pakistan, the Gulf, Venezuela, Liberia, Lithuania, and the Philippines. They will be spending April 1st-5th on UT’s campus.

In addition to Tuesday’s panel, UT students are organizing a “Peace, Love, & Harmonies” Concert to be held April 4, 2013, at the Tin Roof on Cumberland Avenue from 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Admissions is \$5 or free

if you purchase a “Sport 4 Peace” Educate. Unify. Inspire bracelet. Opportunities to purchase food and drinks will be provided by Tin Roof.

During April 1st-5th, blue bins will be placed across campus for “Soccer Balls 4 Smiles” equipment drive. Sporting goods like volleyballs, soccer balls, basketballs, and jump ropes will be donated to the Iraqi refugee children living in Knoxville.

For a discounted ticket to the UT Baseball vs. Longwood game on April 2nd, bring a new or gently used item to donate.

“Sport 4 Peace Week” is the outgrowth of the Service-Learning: Sport and Community Development class in the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, & Sport Studies. This class is designed to use sport to empower and uplift the refugee community of Knoxville by providing opportunities for friendship, health, tutoring, and social integration.

For more information, please contact Caroline Ashton Holland at 865-773-6515 or chollan9@utk.edu.



Dixie Stixx Take First Place In Tournament

The Dixie Stixx 12u fastpitch softball team played in Dr. K’s Academy Spring Break Out The Bats softball tournament on March 23, 2013, at Badgett Fields. The Stixx went 7-1 and scored 51 total runs in tournament play, but most impressive was their having to play and win their last 5 games back-to-back and without any breaks in order to take home the First Place Trophy. Pictured are: (Front row) Jessica Farr, Josie Huff, Sloane Baldrige, Baylee Kitts, Maycie “Ace” Smith, (Second row) Briana Shoemaker, Allison Farr, Katy Turpin, Devin Vineyard, Rencey Dunlap



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Picture of the 1964-65 Basketball Team, provided by Coach Bob Dagley. Left to right (kneeling): Dickie Dunn, Manager; Bob Dagley, Head Coach; Scott Dozier, Manager; (standing): Lynn Miller, Steve Wright, Leslie Spitzer, Mike Graves, Ronald Graves, Tommy Everette, David Widner, Stanley Butler, Charles Ballard, Gene Cantley, Steve Wilson.

A Winning Combination

The Gibbs Eagles' loss to Murfreesboro in January 1965 was their first loss of the season. The Eagles had four more games before the 6th District Tournament. Bob Dagley's Eagles won all four-- though they had two close games. "After our first win in the tournament, we played two of our best games on our way to winning the 6th District Tournament," the Head Coach said. "It was a proud moment when they presented us with the 6th District Trophy," he added. But, there was more.

They announced that Gibbs, also, had won the Sportsmanship Trophy. What a winning combination—talent AND sportsmanship! Dagley remembers that moment: "Mr. Clendenen gladly accepted the Sportsmanship Trophy and said, 'This one belongs to our fans and student body.' He was very proud of the team and our fans," the coach added. To have the approval of Max Clendenen, the school principal, was very special.

After the District Tournament, Dagley and his Eagles moved on to the Region Tournament. The coach can tell it best: "We won the first game, but did not play

real well. The second game was with Alcoa. They were a smaller team, but a very good team. There was no question—they were, by far, the better team that night. The 1964-65 season was over for us, and our final record was 31-2."

Alcoa moved on to play Murfreesboro in the finals of the State Tournament. Coach Dagley remembers how it all played out: "Murfreesboro won and was the No. 1 team in the state; Alcoa was the No. 2 team; and probably, since those two teams were the only teams to beat us, both polls (United Press International and Associated Press) voted Gibbs the No. 3 team in the state in the 1964-65 final poll." The ranking of No. 3 in the state was quite an achievement for the small, rural school. Even now, the coach beams with pride when talking about the team. He can quote statistics from then as if it all happened this year. "I didn't expect to ever see a team like that, let alone coach one," Dagley said as he recalled that special group of players on his 1964-65 basketball team. He summed up the season best as he added, "What a year!!"

Indeed, it was. I hasten to add: What a team---and, what a coach!!

(This is the fifth in a series on the Eagles' amazing 1964-65 year in basketball. Next week, some of the former Eagles share their thoughts with Focus readers.)

Brown to host benefit

By Dan Andrews

On Friday, April 5, the Scarecrow Foundation will pair up with several local and national partners to bring an evening of arts, music, comedy and dancing. The event, "Hip Hop For Hunger," is a will help promote the main mission of the Scarecrow Foundation: to end hunger in East Tennessee. The event will be hosted by local comedian Spanky Brown.

I set a time to meet with Mr. Brown to learn about the benefit. What was scheduled as an interview turned into an hour-long fascinating conversation. Laughter, insightful wisdom, and the real challenges of being a comedian were discussed.

The interview took place in the back corner of Ray's ESG during the early afternoon. I quickly felt at ease in presence of Mr. Brown. With his funny jokes, warm personality, and the smoky ambience of Ray's ESG, I immediately felt transported back to the days of "The Rat Pack." A time when raw talent, hard work and dedicated showmanship shined in an industry of hard working entertainers.

During our conversation Mr. Brown spoke about how improvisation is key to a good performance. He noted that when he originally started out his jokes were mainly scripted. Over time, Mr. Brown realized that the best way to connect with an audience is by adjusting to what the crowd is looking for. Recently, Mr. Brown performed a comedy routine at a high level security prison in Kentucky. He started out telling jokes but when one of the inmates asked him to tell jokes not about other people or other events but about the prisoners and their situation, Mr. Brown immediately changed gears and started cracking jokes about where he was. "I just drove through the town to get here and to be honest I might just stay here. Have you seen it out their? It is way more dangerous outside this prison then in this prison." The crowd roared with laughter and that began the start of a forty-five minute nonstop



comedic interaction with the prison crowd.

The one thing I realized during the interview is that Mr. Brown is insightful and entertaining regardless of the crowd size. Whether it be a crowd size of one person corresponding during an interview or ten thousand in a packed arena, Mr. Brown is always funny.

It comes to him naturally. Many people come to him for advice on how to be funny or how to get in the world of standup comedy. He is always more than happy to give advice and help the community.

In regards to helping the community, Mr. Brown has once again taken time out of his busy schedule to help support a charitable cause. As a comic in high demand who performs all over the country, it is important for Mr. Brown to give back to the community. His schedule is not for the weak at heart. He is currently touring, writing a sitcom, performing as an on air radio personality, as well as various other projects that he is working on.

At the end of our meeting Mr. Brown asked me if I was going to ask him the standard interview questions. I responded "no." I said to him that the interview was over and I had a wide range of material. He asked me how come I didn't record anything or write anything down. He stated he was confused.

I said, "The best interviews are not question and answer. The best interviews are great conversations with dynamic interactions that are remembered long after the interview. If I can't remember what was said thirty minutes after a conversation, then it is not worth writing about."

I then highlighted all the interesting topics and interactions we had. In reality, I could write a five page article. However, the best way to experience the communication skills of Mr. Brown is to see and hear him in person on April 5 at Hanna's Old City, 2013. For more information visit <http://www.hiphopforhunger.com/>

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Faith

The Message of Easter

Easter has many special traditions: coloring hard boiled eggs and egg hunts, chocolate bunnies and candy-filled baskets, dressing up for Easter worship, dinner with family and loved ones, and spring break vacation.

While I am not sure about where some of these traditions began, nor do I really care, I am sure about the message of Easter God intends.

Easter is about new beginnings of life. I am not talking about the season of spring, although this time of year does represent new life that is breaking out after a season of death. When God raised Jesus from the dead,



By Mark Brackney,
Minister of the
Arlington Church
of Christ

Easter was born. The new life Jesus was given has given us hope of new life. The Good News message of the Bible is encapsulated in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Death does not have the final say or victory: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:54-57).

We have been given the victory. And this is not a victory we have to wait to receive. We don't have to wait to die in order to be

made into something new: "We were therefore buried with him (Jesus) through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life...count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Romans 6:4, 11).

When you are baptized into Christ, you crucify and bury the old sinful nature and are raised with Christ in newness of life. All your sins are washed away by the blood of Christ. We not only look forward to a resurrected body like Christ's after we die, but we can look forward to living a new life from the point of salvation.

"And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again...if anyone is

in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Cor. 5:15, 17).

One of my favorite chapters of the Bible is Revelation 21. This chapter talks about the new heaven and new earth. Heaven will be a place where there will be no death, mourning, crying, or pain. "He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true'" (Rev. 21:5).

Easter will be fully realized when we pass from this life to the next, when we enter the New Jerusalem. It is here that everything will be new, not just our lives, but the whole creation. All will be as God desired it to be before sin entered this world. So this Easter, gives thanks for its true message.

Catholic Charities Celebrates Volunteers

Catholic Charities of East Tennessee celebrated volunteers and corporate partners at the Emerald Occasion" Annual Dinner on March 14 at the Knoxville Convention Center. Individual volunteers and corporate partners make it possible for the organization, which is now in its 42nd year, to extend its outreach to the region's poorest and most vulnerable residents.

This year's dinner, the largest event of its kind for Catholic Charities of East Tennessee, supports the work of 17 different service programs in 36 counties. The event was hosted by the Reverend Richard F. Stika, Bishop of Knoxville and Executive Director of Catholic Charities, Father Ragan Schriver.

The program included a presentation of the Creating Hope Award to Kimberly-Clark Corporation for its outstanding partnership with Catholic Charities of East Tennessee. The

award recognizes both corporate and individual volunteer service hours and charitable resource allocation.

"We are honored to be blessed with the commitment of many community volunteer heroes who offer both their time and personal resources to help and support the poorest among us," said Father Ragan Schriver, executive director of Catholic Charities. "We appreciate all of our volunteers, and recognize the corporate sacrifice that companies make when they send us their own staff and even allow staff to use work time and talents to help us. We celebrate all volunteers who quietly, heroically, go about the business of making life better for our most vulnerable residents."

Kimberly-Clark is presenting sponsor for the annual Kids Helping Kids Walk and has long been associated with this event, now in its 15th year.

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Church Happenings

Clear Springs Baptist Church

Clear Springs Baptist Choir and Orchestra will hold an Old Time Gospel Singing this weekend (Saturday, April 6 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, April 7 at 6 p.m.; and Monday, April 8 at 7 p.m.). Everyone is welcome

to attend, Clear Springs is located at 8518 Thompson School Road.

Glenwood Baptist Church of Powell

Glenwood Baptist Church of Powell, 7212 Central Ave.

Pike, is opening the John 5 Food Pantry two Friday mornings, 9:30-11:15 am. and a Thursday evening, 6:00-7:45pm in April. To make an appointment, call (865)938-2611 or leave a message. We will return your call.

Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon

The Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon (KFL) will meet April 2, 2013 at the Golden Corral on Clinton Highway, at noon. Dr. William D. Black will be the guest speaker.

Seymour United Methodist Church

The "Soul Sisters" fellowship group & service will meet on Tuesday, 4/2/13. Amy Gattis is this month's

hostess and is in charge of the planning and program.

The weekly DivorceCare program will meet on Wed., 4/3/13, at 6 PM with this week's topic being, "Facing My Loneliness."

There is no fellowship meal or small group studies scheduled for this 4/3/13 Wed. evening. The weekly Wed. fellowship meals will resume next Wed., April 10th. Small group studies will also resume that evening.

Jubilation is scheduled for April 21st - 23rd in Kingsport at the Meadowview Resort for adults aged 50+. This year's theme is "Grace & Gratitude." Cost and other details available on Holston Conference website.

Clear Springs Baptist Church
Choir & Orchestra

OLD TIME GOSPEL Singing 2013

Saturday, April 13
7:00 pm
Sunday, April 14
6:00 pm
Monday, April 15
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House to Home

Looking at Lilies

With Easter having just passed and many people being presented with “Easter Lilies”, I thought we would take a look at lilies.

Lilies, in their various forms, have been among the most admired and revered flowers of all time. Flowers show a delightful variety in both shape and color. Some have big cup-shaped blossoms facing the sky or at right angles to the stem, others are trumpet-shaped, or may have their petals curled back. In most, prominent stamens and wonderful fragrance add to the charm of these flowers. Colors range from white to yellow, apricot, orange, pink and crimson, with some varieties attractively spotted with contrasting color.

Long the subject of intensive work by plant breeders, lilies are continually being improved, both in performance and beauty. With proper choice of varieties, lilies may be enjoyed in bloom outdoors from June to October. Heights vary from 18 inches to several feet. Most of them are hardy and need not be disturbed for many years.

Plant in spring or fall, ideally where their “heads” can be in the sun and their “feet” in the shade. Will also tolerate a location with morning sun and afternoon shade. To keep diseases to a minimum, choose a planting spot with good air circulation. Lilies have three basic cultural requirements: deep, loose, well-



By Mike Cruze, Master Gardener

drained soil (amended with plenty of organic matter such as peat moss or leaf mold) ; ample moisture year-round (plants never completely stop growing); and coolness at roots with some sun at tops where flowers form. To ensure good drainage, old-timers put a handful of sand under each bulb at planting time.

Allow 12 to 18 inches between tall lillies; slightly less for low growers. Plant lily bulbs three times as deep as their diameter, with the exception of the Madonna lily which should be planted only 1 or 2 inches deep. Planting depth can be quite flexible. It’s better to err by planting shallowly than too deeply; lily bulbs have contractile roots that draw them down to proper depth.

Lilies need constant moisture to about 6 inches deep. Reduce watering somewhat after tops turn yellow in fall, but never allow roots to dry out completely. Soaking is preferable to overhead watering, which may help to spread disease spores. Feed once in spring with a timed-release, pelleted fertilizer, according to label directions. A 2 inch-thick mulch of shredded leaves or compost will help keep the soil cool and moist; to avoid rot, keep mulch away from the stem of the lily.

Occasionally bothered by borers, narcissus bulb flies, red lily leaf beetles, botrytis blight, root rot or mosaic virus, which causes yellow streaks or mottling on the leaves. Any lilies affected with this virus should be dug up and destroyed immediately. The virus is spread

by aphids, so eradicate any aphids at the first sign of attack with an appropriate insecticide. Let foliage die naturally after flowers fade; do not cut the stems until they have turned completely brown. As long as the lilies grow and bloom well, do not disturb them.

Examples of species:

Candidum (Madonna Lily). A hardy species with pure white, fragrant blooms on 3-4 foot stems in late spring, early summer. Unlike most lilies, dies down soon after bloom, makes new growth in fall. Plant while dormant in August. (The lily of medieval romance, a sentimental choice).

‘Golden Splendor.’ A hardy, Trumpet hybrid perennial with outward facing, scented flowers of yellow with a dark burgundy band in midsummer, 4-6 feet.

‘King Pete.’ A hardy, Asiatic hybrid perennial with outward facing, bowl-shaped flowers of deep cream spotted orange in midsummer, 3 feet.

Pardalinum. A hardy, species perennial of clump forming habit with lance-shaped leaves of dull green and producing turkscap-type flowers of orange-red to crimson, with maroon and some yellow marking, in midsummer, 5-8 feet.

Speciosum ‘Uchido.’ A hardy, species perennial carrying fragrant, turkscap type crimson-red

flowers with deeper red marking, in late summer and early autumn. Best in moist, acidic soil in part shade, 3-6 feet.

‘Star Gazer,’ A hardy, Oriental hybrid perennial with turkscap-type flowers of red with darker spots. Well suited to cultivation in containers. 3-5 feet.

Plant these bulbs and value these perennials of showy flowers, many of which are heavily scented. A great addition to your garden!

“And the stately lilies stand Fair in the silvery light, Like saintly vestals, pale in prayer; Their pure breath sanctifies the air, As its fragrance fills the night.”--Julia C.R. Dorr

“And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.”-Matthew 7: 28-29

Special Notes of Interest:

Dogwood Arts Festival 2013 is just around the corner. The official kickoff is April 10 and the Dogwood Trails, Open Gardens and Camera Sites will be open through April 28. Get out and enjoy these beautiful trails and gardens!!! Also be sure to check out the other festivities of the Dogwood Arts Festival at dogwoodarts.com. The Faragut Trail is the Featured Trail for 2013!!!

April 13: Talahi Plant Sale at Lakeshore Park. Considered to be the oldest plant sale in the area. The Knoxville Garden Club and The

Garden Study Club is excited to host the 49th Annual Talahi Plant Sale. Corner of Northshore Drive and Lyons View Pike. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. April 27: Annual Spring Garden Festival at Franklin Square. Sponsored by the Knox County Council of Garden Clubs. Local vendors will provide a variety of annuals, perennials, garden art, and Certified Naturally Grown plants, herbs and produce. Student art displays, live entertainment and refreshments also provided throughout the event. 9700 Kingston Pike. 9am-3 p.m.

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ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Important Photograph discovered in F. City

Last week I received a call from Fountain City resident Anna Harrell requesting a meeting so I could assess a few items for her.

We chatted for a bit during my visit and eventually she asked me to see what I knew about a painting of her Grandfather. She unwrapped what appeared to be an antique oil painting of an elderly couple. When I saw it I knew immediately that it was a full plate tintype that had been hand painted in many colors to look realistic as could be.

Tintypes were a form of photography that began in the 1860s and were very cheap to produce. The vast majority of images from the Civil War were tintypes made by traveling photographers for soldiers on both sides. At the turn of the century, they were all the rage as a family could now afford a group portrait and studios were just about everywhere with sometimes a dozen in a town offering their service.

Soon after photography advanced to where it could be printed on paper, the age of the tintype disappeared. From 1839 (when Louis Daguerre developed his process to capture an image) all the way to the tintype era, there was one standard size. The full plate that the camera could view was about 12 x 10". Exposures took up to four to eight minutes and the subjects many times were made to sit in a standing neck brace for the period and could not move at all. This 12x10" plate was divided up to sixteen times,



By Carl Sloan

making the smallest image around 2x2". Anything larger than ½ the plate was very scarce. These large images required a studio with a controlled environment and were also rather pricey. For an additional fee, an artist could enhance the image by dabbing color to the face and jewelry or even hand paint the entire exposure to resemble a color photograph today.

So a full plate, hand painted in oil of a country couple is not what I am used to seeing anymore than Ma and Pa Kettle starring on Dancing With The Stars. Mrs Harrell proudly told me this was her grandfather, who was a pastor of a church in Union County, and his wife. Mrs. Harrell thought it was just a painting. In fact, this couple, being pastor Nelson Yadon and wife Phoebe, were quite prominent at the time. Nelson and Phoebe lived in upper Hickory Valley and are buried in the Yadon Cemetery. What a very rare and important part of East Tennessee history and a window of our past. I suggested that, in time, she could donate this to the McClung Collection of the East Tennessee Historical Society as it would be a treasure for all to see.

As always I am most happy to hear from our community, whether they are wanting to sell or just identify items. To schedule an appointment please call Fountain City Auction at (865)604-3468 and ask Carl Sloan to get in touch with you, I am available most weekends with an appointment.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

AARP Driver Safety

April Classes

For registration information about these and all other AARP Driver Safety Classes, please call Carolyn Rambo 584-9964.

4/3 & 4/4 9 to 1 Oak Ridge Senior Center, 728 Emory Valley Road, Oak Ridge

4/4 (1 Day) 9 to 15 Second Presbyterian Church, 2829 Kingston Pike, Knoxville

4/23 & 4/24 9 to 1 Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church, 3700 Keowee, Knoxville

4/24 (1 Day) 8:30 to 5 Dandridge Senior Center, 917 Elliott Ferry Road, Dandridge

4/25 & 4/26 9 to 1 Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Drive, Farragut

Central High School

The Central High School Class of 1963 is looking for lost classmates as we prepare to celebrate our 50th Reunion this spring.

If you are part of this class and have not heard from the committee about the upcoming "golden reunion" please email or mail your information. Email your contact info to: ajrader@bellsouth.net or mail to CHS Class of '63, 5428 Kesterbrooke Blvd., Knoxville, TN 37918.

Daughters of the Confederacy Meeting

The Captain W. Y. C. Hannum Chapter #1881,

United Daughters of the Confederacy will meet at the Green Meadow Country Club in Alcoa on Saturday, April 27 at 10:30 a.m. Business Session will begin at 11:00 followed by lunch. The program topic will be presented by Linda Albert and Dave Duggan, Authors of "Images of America". Visitors are welcome to attend. For reservations or more information, please contact Charlotte Miller, 865-448-6716.

Fountain City / North Knox Republican Club meeting

The Fountain City / North Knox Republican Club will meet on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at Louis Restaurant on Old Broadway. Dinner will begin at 5:45 p.m. and the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. For more information you may contact President Michele Carringer at 865-247-5756 or by email at mwcarringer@yahoo.com.

Hardin Valley Academy

Hardin Valley Academy will hold a Fine Arts Night on Thursday, April 4 at 6 p.m. For a \$15 contribution, guests will enjoy a spaghetti dinner at 6:45 p.m. which will be followed by The Streamliners, a group of jazz musicians, as well as a showcase of the school's Visual Art, Theater, Band, Orchestra and Chorus talent.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Phase II of University Medical Center's

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

Contact Teresa Scoggins, Choral Director of Hardin Valley Academy, who is personally a NICU advocate, at teresa.scoggins@knox-schools.org to make a \$15 contribution to attend the benefit.

Knoxville High School seeking nominees

Knoxville High School is asking for nominees for the induction into their annual

"Hall of Fame."

Inductees into the "Hall of Fame" are all of those who have been a part of Historic Knoxville High School from 1910 - 1951.

You are urged to nominate any former alumni, who may have excelled on the local, state, national or international level. Any who have achieved outstanding accomplishments in art, academics, entertainment, religion, science, literature, business, public service,

sports, military service, which have brought honor to the heritage of Knoxville High School.

They will be recognized at the "Hall of Fame" Banquet, October 18, 2013, at the Foundry Banquet Hall.

Call 696-9585 for application nominations and information.

Vestival call for vendors

The Candoro Arts & Heritage Center is looking for artists, craft persons, food

vendors, and creative types extraordinaire to rent booth space for the 13th annual Vestival.

Vestival is an art and music festival taking place Saturday May 11, 2013 from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. on the grounds of the marble works on Maryville Pike and Candora Dr. in South Knoxville. The festival includes two stages of music and an art exhibition inside the historic Candoro Marble office Building.

CLASSIFIEDS

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7535 Maynardville Hwy Halls
Friday, April 5, 8:30-5pm
Saturday, April 6, 8:30 - 3pm

PUBLIC NOTICE

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The owners and / or lien holders of the following vehicle are hereby notified of their rights to pay all charges and reclaim said vehicle being held at the storage facility below.
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Park Day to be held at historic Mabry-Hazen House

Since 1996, the Civil War Trust has sponsored Park Day, an annual hands-on preservation event to help Civil War battlefields and historic sites take on maintenance projects large and small.

This year Park Day will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2013, from 9am to 2pm at the Mabry-Hazen House. Activities will include leaf and brush removal, mulching, dead tree removal, and general spring-cleaning. Some tools will be provided, but volunteers are encouraged to bring rakes, pitchforks, tarps, and similar yard tools.

The Mabry-Hazen House Museum, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is located on six acres atop Mabry's Hill. Housing three generations of the

same family from 1858-1987, the Mabry-Hazen House served as headquarters for both Union and Confederate forces during the Civil War.

Park Day, now in its 17th year, is an annual hands-on preservation event created by the Trust to assist local groups with the maintenance of Civil War sites. In exchange for their hard work, volunteers receive t-shirts and will also be provided a free lunch.

The nationwide effort is underwritten with a grant from History™ and is recognized by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a "Take Pride in America" event. Additional information can be obtained by visiting www.mabryhazen.com or by calling (865)522-8661.

A Very Special Arts Festival

A Very Special Arts Festival is a unique event that celebrates the artistic endeavors of Knox County school-aged students having diverse abilities. The event is not a competition, but an event that provides an opportunity for students with disabilities to share their talents, works of art, and accomplishments with an interested audience.

The event includes a wide variety of activities in music, dance, drama, and visual arts. Workshops of "make and take" arts and crafts, demonstrations, exhibits of art work, and performances by individuals with disabilities are all elements of the festival. Students will enjoy numerous local character "walk

abouts", an exhibit from the Knoxville Zoo mobile, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, a DJ, and a variety of other activities. The main purpose of the event is to encourage and stimulate feelings of self-worth and to provide opportunities for students with disabilities to get together and express their creative talents in areas where there are no handicaps... the arts!

Where: West High School
When: Wednesday, April 3, 2013
Time: 9am-12:30pm
How Much: Free

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Artist Announced for 2013 Dogwood Arts Limited Edition Print

Alex Smith has been chosen as the artist for the 2013 Dogwood Arts Limited Edition Print for his painting, Tennessee Dream.

Alex Smith is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee and a 2010 graduate of Carson-Newman College where he majored in art and was a member of the National Champion varsity football team. He has completed post-graduate studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and at the Idaho studio of renowned American landscape artist Scott Christensen.

Though his passion is the intricate detail, light, and color of realism, he occasionally unwinds with more abstract and impressionistic work. He has commissioned works in a number of private and public collections. He is currently featured at The Richard Stravitz Sculpture and Fine Art Gallery in Virginia Beach, Bennett Gallery in Knoxville and at his studio in the Emporium Building on Gay Street in Knoxville. He was the featured artist at The Schilling Gallery at Westminster Church in Knoxville in September,

2011 and his painting, Olds, was the Purchase Prize winner at the 2012 Norfolk Academy Art Show.

Alex says, "I've been drawing and painting my homeland all my life, most often from a photograph. When I was asked to paint my version of our countryside for the Dogwood Arts Festival print, I went to my head and not to one specific scene. I began with the sky on a perfect morning because that's my favorite kind of light. Rolling hills and distant mountains help any East Tennessean feel a sense of knowing and home. The water was tricky and changed often over the course of this painting's creation. When I was finished, my Dad saw a spot on the old Little T, where he fished with his dad as a kid.

"So, like this river, my painting rambled from wide to narrow, from coming at you, to bending from you to where it ended up. I've never seen this place in person; it only evolved over time and in my dreams – and brought at least one good memory to the permanence of paint. This painting's

palette and light belong to East Tennessee; those of us lucky enough to live here can find in it a certain familiarity.

"I'm honored to have my work selected for this year's Dogwood Arts Limited Edition Print and hope it evokes the same sense of gratitude and calm for those who see this piece. I hope it makes any one who lives or visits here grin and feel connected to this fine part of creation. And for those who have never been here, I hope it makes them want to visit."

With only 1,000 Tennessee Dream prints available at \$100 each, prints are available at the Dogwood Arts Festival in April or at dogwoodarts.com or call [865] 637.4561. Prints will also be available at Fast Frame, Bennett Galleries, and Liz-Beth & Co.



An opening reception showcasing Alex Smith's work will be held April 5, 5-8 pm at Bennett Galleries.

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2013's Featured Trail: Farragut

Welcome to the Farragut Dogwood Trail, which begins in Fox Den Subdivision, travels a portion of Country Manor and ends in Village Green.

As you travel along North Fox Den Drive, you will see beautiful homes with rock gardens, dogwoods, azaleas, tulips and the ornamental Japanese maples.

Magnolia trees abound on Oakmont Circle, forming an archway over the street in one area. Keep your eyes open for squirrels, chipmunks and rabbits throughout this trail. You might even see a raccoon, opossum or fox.

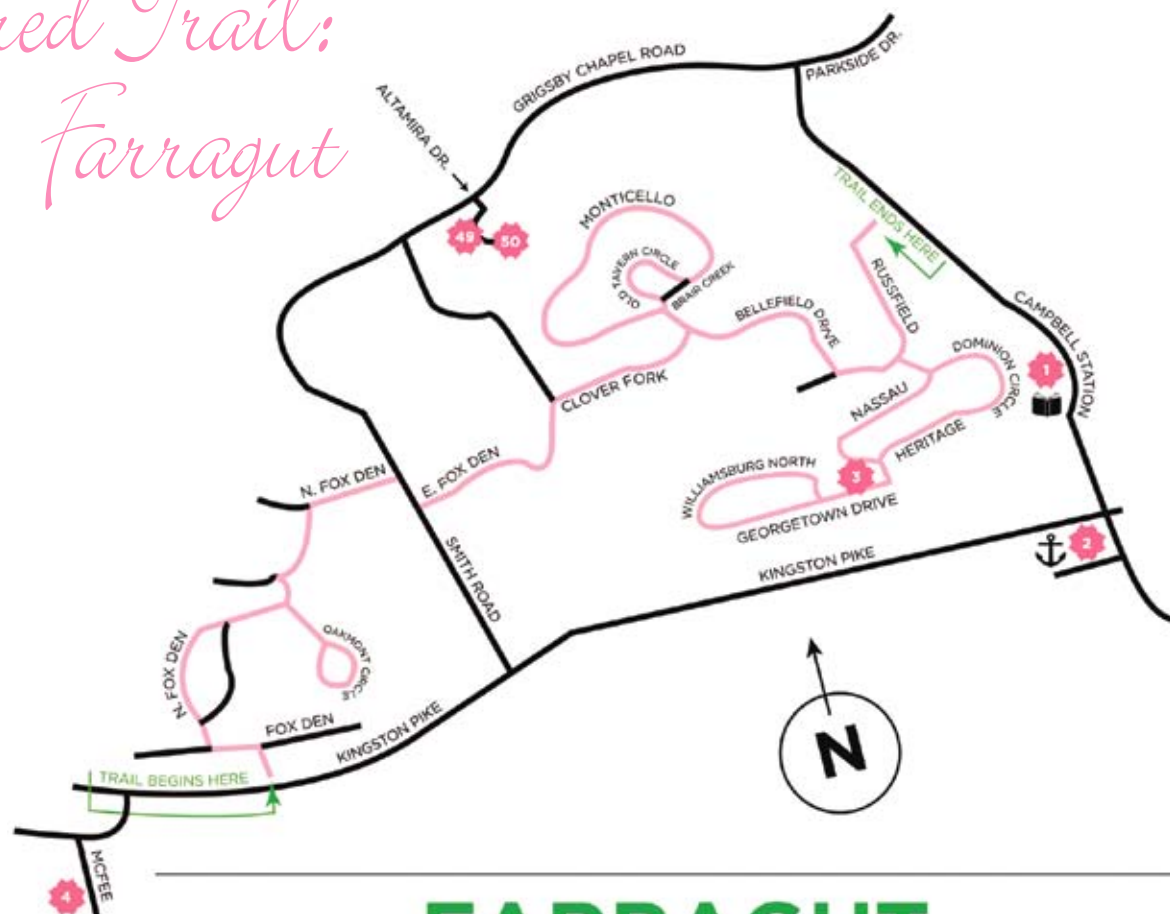
After passing the Fox Den Country Club and climbing the hill, pause for a minute to see the beautiful view of the surrounding hills. As you descend the hill, you can get a view of the 18 hole Fox Den Golf Course. Even though the developer had to clear large areas for the course, he was very successful in preserving much of the original woodlands, especially the tall pines.

Smith Road will give you a good view of the golf course, a quick view of the lake and will lead you to East Fox Den Drive. Weeping willows and the "yellow" cypress intermingle with the dogwoods in this section.

In Country Manor, a newer subdivision, look for the beautiful white pines and blue atlas cedars. The trail enters the side door of Village Green on Cloverfork Drive. Village Green is the oldest of the three subdivisions, being the first planned community in Knox County. It was patterned after Colonial Williamsburg.

Pampas grass, nandinas with bright red berries, blue Norway spruce, acubas and ivy share this wooded area with the dogwoods as you make your way over "The Village" streets.

The large open area on Bellfield Road is owned by the neighborhood. The weeping willows are in evidence along the small creek. Bellfield Road leads into the earliest part of the neighborhood where the natural woodlands were preserved



FARRAGUT

TRAIL BEGINS AT 12255 KINGSTON PIKE

and many native dogwoods bloom each year.

When you top the hill at Russfield Drive, look straight ahead for a view of the mountains. Then you will turn onto Nassau Drive, a heavily wooded area that leads to the clubhouse.

As you circle around West Heritage Drive to Georgetown Drive, you will see rock gardens and many flowering shrubs in these mature yards. Weeping cherry trees greet you on Georgetown Drive and lead you to North Williamsburg Drive.

The trail continues on East Heritage Drive and Dominion Circle where many mature dogwoods bloom along with tulips, irises and azaleas. Magnolia trees in all sizes are throughout The Village in keeping with the colonial theme.

Down Russfield Lane, where again you see the natural woodlands, and onto Olde Colony Parkway, the trail ends.

We hope you enjoyed your visit to the Farragut Dogwood Trail. Come back next year!

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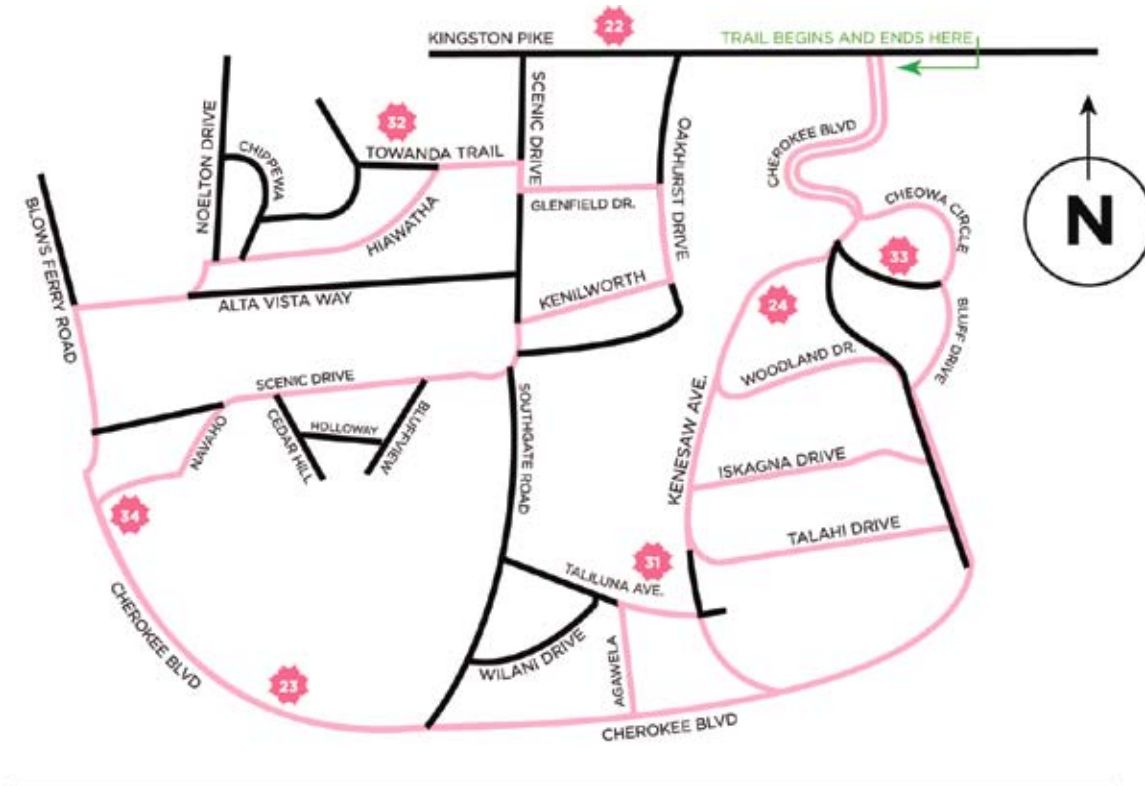
1. Campbell Station Park & Public Library (wonderful walking pathway)
417 No. Campbell Station Road, 37934. Hours: Daylight
2. Admiral David Glasgow Farragut Memorial Plaza
11408 Memorial Center Drive, 37934. Hours: Daylight

FARRAGUT FEATURED CAMERA SITES

3. Mark and Lisa Caldwell
11617 Georgetown Drive, 37934 (Village Green)
4. Champion Daylilies
341 McFee Road, 37934

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49. Michael & Mary Bates
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50. Jim & Kathy Brennan
525 Altamira Drive, 37934
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SEQUOYAH HILLS

TRAIL BEGINS AT 415 CHEROKEE BLVD.

**SEQUOYAH HILLS:
RESIDENTIAL OPEN GARDENS**
Open April 10 - 28 :: 11am - 2pm

22. Eddie Mannis (gardens and water features in back)
3835 Kingston Pike, 37919 (Sequoyah Hills)
23. Mr. and Mrs. James Taulbee
2141 Cherokee Boulevard, 37919 (Sequoyah Hills)
24. Dr. Tucker and Mrs. Claire Gentry
640 Kenesaw Avenue, 37919

RESIDENTIAL CAMERA SITES
Open April 10 - 28 :: 11am - 2pm

31. Drs. Bryce and Lisa Bowling
3519 Talliluna, 37919 (Sequoyah Hills)
32. Mr. & Mrs. Dewey Hillard
4053 Towanda Trail, 37919 (Sequoyah Hills)
33. Neal and Dena Pinsker
722 Bluff Drive, 37919 (Sequoyah Hills)
34. Bob and Lori Golden Stryer (also water feature)
2345 Cherokee Boulevard, 37919 (Sequoyah Hills)

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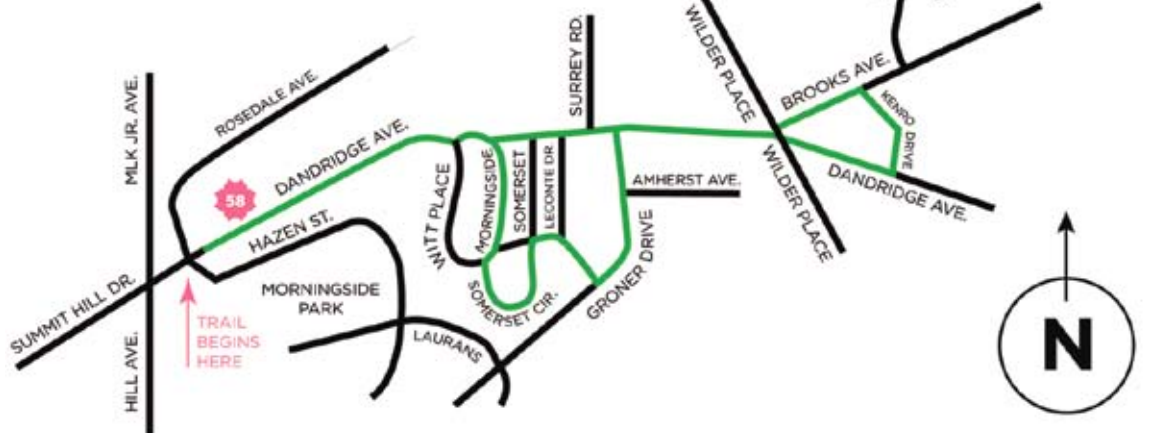
Directions: knoxgarden.org

HISTORIC SITES

58. Mabry-Hazen House tel. 865.522.8661

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Share What You Know About Tennessee Marble

Saturday April 6 from 1:00pm-4:00pm at Ijams Nature Center

1:00pm-4:00pm.

Many of us know that Tennessee marble has been used in many buildings in Washington, D.C. Three of the four grand staircases leading to the House and Senate Chambers in the United States Capitol are dark cedar (brown variegated marble) from Hawkins County. The exterior light pink marble for the National Gallery of Art and its East Building came from Knox and Blount County quarries. But did you know that the floor of Grand Central Terminal in New York City is dark pink Tennessee marble?

And that the Morgan Library was built of a light pink marble likely quarried out of one of the two quarries now property of Ijams?

Will you share your knowledge of the marble industry in East Tennessee with us? Did anyone in your family work in an East Tennessee marble quarry? Do you have any objects made of Tennessee pink, gray, or cedar marble or live in a house that has any interior marble features? We would love to talk with you!

Public historian Susan W. Knowles, Ph.D. and

Carroll Van West, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University are visiting quarries and mills around the region, collecting stories and scanning documents and photographs for a survey of the East Tennessee Marble Industry, 1838-1950. Their goal is to bring this important cultural heritage national attention. Maps of former quarry and mill locations will show the extent of marble quarrying in the area. The former Mead and Ross quarries (now part of Ijams Nature

Center) will be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

This project is a partnership between Ijams Nature Center, the East Tennessee Historical Society, the McClung Historical Collection/Knox County Public Library, the Center for Historic Preservation

at MTSU, and Knox Heritage, with a grant from the Tennessee Historical Commission.

For more information contact: Call Paul James @ 865-577-4717 ext. 118 or email pjames@ijams.org or susan.knowles@mtsu.edu.

Dogwood Chalk Walk

After four very successful years, the Chalk Walk returns! During this street painting festival, downtown sidewalks become the canvas for more than one hundred professional and student artists and families.

Thought to have originated in Italy in the 16th century, street painting is a growing event at many community festivals. Originally, the artwork was of a religious nature, therefore the artists were called "Madonnari". Vagabond artists would travel

throughout Italy between festivals, living solely on the coins tossed onto or next to their drawings as homage to the Madonna or possibly to their abilities. For centuries, the Madonnari were true folk artists, but suffered a decline after World War II.

The Dogwood Arts Festival is once again bringing this event to Knoxville as a way to teach and promote the history of this lost art to all ages and levels of artists in a community setting. Original work by participating

WHAT: Chalk Walk
WHERE: Market Square and Krutch Park [Downtown Knoxville]
WHEN: Saturday, April 6, 8:00am – 5:00pm
HOW MUCH: Free admission
RAIN DATE: Sunday, April 7

Chalk Walk artists will be available for purchase for \$30!

For the fourth year in a row, Avanti Savoia is the presenting sponsor of Chalk Walk. Artists' chalk is provided by Jerry's Artarama.

Legend of the Dogwood

As a child I heard this tale, Long ago during the days that Jesus was here on earth in the form of man there were many dogwood trees. The dogwood was comparable in size to the oak tree and other monarchs of the forest.

Because of its firmness and strength it was selected as the timber for the cross, but to be put to such a cruel use greatly distressed the tree.

Sensing this, the crucified Jesus in his gentle pity for the sorrow and suffering of all said to it: "Because of your sorrow and pity for My sufferings, never again will the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross. Henceforth it will be slender, bent and twisted and its blossoms will be in the form of a cross two long and two short petals.

"In the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints brown with rust and stained with red and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see this will remember." ~ Author Unknown

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"There's a perception in other parts of the county that it's just too hard to get to South Knoxville because of the extended bridge closure," said Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett. "We want to bring people out south for this event so they'll realize the detour is not hard to navigate."

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- **Live TV & Radio Broadcasts**
- **Live Music**
- **United Healthcare Kids Zone**
- **Wellness Corner**
- **Tour de South: Guided Bike Tours**
- **Sidewalk Sales**
- **On-Site Shuttles**
- **Circus-Style Entertainment**
from the Shriners
- **Food Vendors**

The event is intended to encourage people to shop, eat and have a good time at local businesses south of the river.



For more information about SouthFest, call 215-4007 or follow @TimBurchett and @KnoxGov on Twitter